

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An apparatus for enabling an elongated pipe to be installed below a ceiling using a single installer comprising:
 - a first jaw; said jaw adapted to temporarily support one end of said pipe;
 - a fastener; said fastener for removably securing the apparatus to the ceiling; and
 - an extension device; said extension device connecting said jaw to said fastener;whereby one end of said pipe may be temporarily supported at a distance from the ceiling so that the installer may attach the other end of said pipe to another pipe or to another connecting member.
2. An apparatus as set forth in Claim 1, further including a second jaw; at least one of said jaws being rotatable.
3. An apparatus as set forth in Claim 2, further including a connection member; each jaw being curved and each jaw having a first end and a second end; said first ends of each jaw connected to said connection member; said second ends of each jaw removably connected to one another.
4. An apparatus as set forth in Claim 3, wherein said first jaw is bifurcated and including a pair of curved elements forming a gap; said second end of said second jaw received in said gap at the second end of said first jaw when said jaws are closed.
5. An apparatus as set forth Claim 4, further including a plurality of holes near said second end of said second jaw and in said curved elements near said second end of said first jaw; predetermined holes in said second jaw adapted to align with predetermined holes in said first jaw; two of said aligned holes removably receiving a pin whereby the jaws may be fixed with a predetermined circumference corresponding to the circumference of a particular pipe.
6. An apparatus as set forth in Claim 1, wherein said fastener includes a clamp.

7. An apparatus as set forth in Claim 6, wherein said clamp is a "C" clamp; said "C" clamp adapted to be fastened to a ceiling joist.
8. An apparatus as set forth in Claim 6, wherein said clamp is an "O" clamp; said "O" clamp adapted to be fastened to a pipe located below the ceiling.
9. An apparatus as set forth in Claim 6, wherein said fastener includes a boss having a hole there through for slidably receiving said extension device whereby the distance from the ceiling to said jaw may be adjusted.
10. An apparatus as set forth in Claim 3, wherein said connection member includes a threaded hole for receiving one end of said extension device; said one end of said extension device being threaded whereby fine adjustments for the distance between said ceiling and said jaws may be made.
11. An apparatus as set forth in Claim 1, wherein said extension device is in the form of an elongated rod.
12. An apparatus as set forth in Claim 1, including a water pipe support bracket; said bracket including a hole there through for receiving said extension device; said bracket located between said jaw and said fastener.
13. An apparatus as set forth in Claim 12, wherein said bracket includes a pair of grooves therein for receiving a pair of water pipes.
14. A method for installing a pipe below a ceiling using a single installer and utilizing an apparatus including a first jaw, a fastener and an extension device connecting said first jaw to said fastener, comprising the steps of:
 - attaching the apparatus to the ceiling using said fastener;
 - placing one end of said pipe in said jaw so that said one end of said pipe becomes suspended from the ceiling; and

attaching the other end of said pipe to a previously installed pipe or to another connecting member.

15. A method as set forth in Claim 14, wherein the apparatus includes a second jaw; said first and second jaws substantially forming a closed loop when said jaws are closed; at least one jaw being rotatable; further including a step of opening said rotatable jaw prior to placing said one end of said pipe within said closed loop, and closing said rotatable jaw about one end of said pipe, and securing said jaws in the closed position.

16. A method as set forth in Claim 14, wherein said apparatus further includes a second jaw; said first and second jaws substantially forming a closed loop when said jaws are closed; and further including the step of placing one end of said pipe within said closed loop.

17. A method as set forth in Claim 14, further including the step of permanently attaching said pipe to the ceiling, removing said apparatus from said pipe, and removing said apparatus from the ceiling.

18. A method as set forth in Claim 14, further including the step of adjusting the distance between said jaw and the ceiling.

19. A method as set forth in Claim 18, wherein said fastener is a clamp member having a hole there through for slidably receiving said extension device, wherein the distance between said jaw and the ceiling is adjusted by moving said extension device through said hole and fixing the location of said clamp member on said extension device.

20. A method as set forth in Claim 18, wherein said apparatus includes a connection member having a threaded hole for receiving one end of said extension device; said one end of said connection device being threaded; further including the steps of rotating said connection member, thereby making fine adjustments of the distance between said jaw and the ceiling.

21. A method as set forth in Claim 14, wherein said apparatus includes a water pipe support bracket; said bracket including a hole there through for receiving said extension device, said

bracket located between said jaw and said fastener; further including the step of placing first and second water pipes in said grooves.